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THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

TOWN OFFICERS

—OF—

SOUTH SCITUATE

—FOR THE—

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 1, 1881,

—EMBRACING THOSE OF THE—

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS, OVERSEERS OF THE POOR, TREASURER,
SURVEYORS OF HIGHWAYS, TOWN CLERK AND
SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

HINGHAM:

FRED H. MILLER, Printer.

1881.

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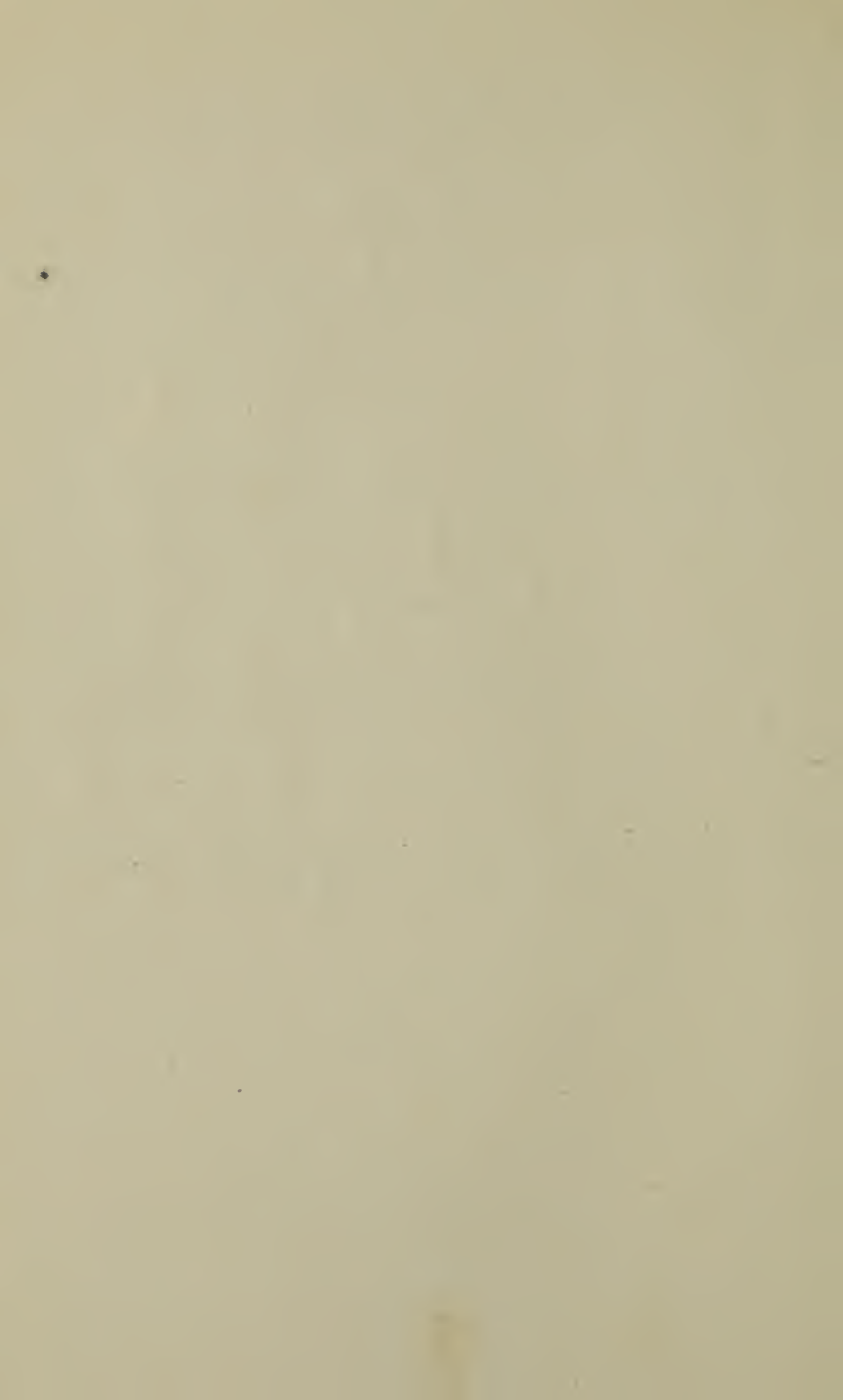
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SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS, OVERSEERS OF THE POOR, TREASURER,
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REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

The Selectmen submit for your consideration the thirty-first annual report of the financial condition of the town for the year ending January 1, 1881.

The business connected with the several departments of town affairs have been conducted, as we trust, to the acceptance of its citizens.

There has been expended the past year, by orders of the county commissioners and by vote of the town, for special repairs of our roads, a large amount of money, for which no appropriation was made.

The town appropriated \$1,950 for ordinary repairs of roads, \$450 of the same to be expended by the Selectmen for repairs of Main and Central streets and Norwell avenue, and for such other repairs as to them seemed necessary.

By a vote of the town we were instructed to let out the special repairs at auction, which was done to the extent that it seemed possible to do, and the work has been generally well performed ; yet we believe that the same amount of work could have been done at a less cost had it been done by the day, under the supervision of some suitable person ; at any rate we think that a town *ought to be willing to pay* for whatever labor has *actually* been performed, and for no more. The condition of our roads at the present time are, we think, as good as can be reasonably expected under our present system, and compare favorably with those of our neighboring towns, and we believe that for the ensuing year our ordinary appropriation will be sufficient for the repairs of our highways.

By vote of the town we were authorized to purchase a new hearse, which has been done at a cost of \$570. It is of beautiful design and with all modern improvements, and cannot fail to give satisfaction. It was manufactured by George L. Brownell, Esq., of New Bedford, whose reputation for fine carriages is second to none.

SUPPORT OF POOR.

There has been paid for support of poor at the almshouse the past year \$1,301.08. The average number of inmates was 11½. There has been more sickness than for many previous years and death has removed two, each having needed almost constant care, which we believe they received. Others are also in a helpless condition, yet we think that they have been well cared for by the efficient industry of the wife of the superintendent.

There has been paid for aid to out-door poor, \$761.84; many of these cases are those of worthy poor. There is, however, another class which has called upon us for assistance that should have been provided for by members of their own families. Their earnings have been sufficient but they are not well taken care of. They are already indebted to the grocer, the doctor, or the butcher, and their credit is among the things of the past. Sickness finally overtakes them or some member of their family, they are suffering for medical attendance or the necessities of life to make them comfortable, and they are obliged to call upon the town to do what they should have been able to do themselves.

Distribution of State Aid.

PAID UNDER CHAPTER 301 OF THE ACTS OF THE YEAR 1879.

Mary Monahon	\$48 00
Charles D. Barnard	72 00
Hannah Dover	48 00
John Lewis	72 00
George B. Hayden	54 00
Harriet Jacobs	48 00
Hannah W. Hayden	48 00
Joseph E. Stoddard	48 00
Thomas Mee	36 00
Mary A. Studley	24 00
Seth O. Fitts	36 00
Mary Stoddard	48 00
Louisa J. Hayden	48 00
Mary Spencer	48 00
Joseph B. Goodrich	36 00

Sarah F. Stoddard	\$21 00
Betsey W. Sylvester	48 00
Total	<u>\$783 00</u>

The above is to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth.

PAID UNDER CHAPTER 252 OF THE ACTS OF 1879, ENTITLED
 "AN ACT FOR THE BENEFIT OF INDIGENT SOLDIERS AND
 SAILORS."

For board, nursing and medical attendance for Napoleon B. Powell	\$49 00
One-half to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth.	

Expenses of the Several School Districts.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Paid Charles H. Totman for cleaning school rooms	\$10 75
Charles H. Totman, for repairs and supplies	9 91
F. H. Curtis, for stock and labor	4 27
Total	<u>\$24 93</u>

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Paid Alpheus Damon, for supplies	\$2 05
Ira B. Sanborn, for supplies	5 21
Ira B. Sanborn, for cleaning school rooms	11 00
Total	<u>\$18 26</u>

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Paid F. H. Curtis, for stock and repairs	\$9 42
Levi N. Osborne, for stock and labor	17 50
Snow Bryant, for painting blinds	5 00
F. W. Prouty, for mason work	2 35
Henry W. Damon, for repairs	2 25
Daniel D. Sprague, for repairs and supplies	5 16
David Stoddard, for cleaning house and repairs	10 80
Total	<u>\$52 48</u>

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Paid Samuel Turner, for stock and labor	\$1 50
C. A. Litchfield, for supplies and repairs	3 90
C. A. Litchfield, for cash paid for cleaning house	3 00
	<hr/>
Total	\$8 40

DISTRICT NO. 5.

Paid Samuel Turner, for labor	\$0 75
Andrew J. Litchfield, for supplies and repairs	7 20
Andrew J. Litchfield, for cash paid for cleaning house	3 50
	<hr/>
Total	\$11 45

DISTRICT NO. 6.

Paid Samuel Turner, for stock and labor	\$6 23
John Turner, for repairs	3 96
	<hr/>
Total	\$10 19

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Paid H. M. Stetson, cash paid for cleaning house	\$7 00
Parker Cushing, for painting	3 00
Abner Stetson, for grading school-house yard	6 40
B. P. Stetson, for repairs	5 25
Gilbert Currill, for labor	75
H. M. Stetson, for labor and cash paid for same	9 00
H. W. Barstow, mason work and stock	21 25
	<hr/>
Total	\$52 65

Paid E. T. Fogg, for supplies to the several districts	\$27 74
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PAID FOR SCHOOL BOOKS.

Knight, Adams & Co.	\$29 95
Nichols & Hall	42 50
D. Appleton & Co.	8 21
J. L. Hammett	2 40
Thompson, Brown & Co.	6 95

William Ware & Co.	\$54 12
A. C. Stockin	7 83
New England School Furnishing Company	215 15
<hr/>	
Total	\$367 11

Repairs of Highways.

Town appropriation	\$1,500 00
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DISTRICT NO. 1.

Appropriation	\$164 25
Paid Israel L. Vining	\$47 58*
George Allen	16 55
C. Ford	3 99
H. Penniman	2 00
D. Robinson	1 33
A. Vining	3 28
W. W. Collamore	14 20
T. B. Chapman	30 40
Charles Lincoln	13 33
H. Curtis	3 13
F. Vining	6 65
C. V. Chapman	2 66
C. Wilder	5 64
E. Magoun	6 67
for sharpening tools	85
<hr/>	
Total	\$158 26

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Appropriation	\$245 07
Paid R. P. Briggs	\$15 00
W. Hayden	20 41
L. Damon	5 55
Miles S. Turner	7 50
T. Stoddard	3 33
A. Sanborn	3 00

Paid R. Farrar	\$12 91
J. G. Briggs	2 67
H. Sears	2 67
W. Jones	8 00
Morris Gammon	7 50
W. T. Stoddard	3 00
E. Gammon	87
S. Damon	2 50
P. Nichols	3 00
R. P. & W. S. Briggs, team work	24 00
Edward Gammon	6 47
P. Curtis	6 50
Andrew Clapp	15 58
W. S. Briggs	12 00
J. E. Gammon	4 67
J. Bailey	18 67
B. Jacobs	17 94
J. E. Groce	2 67
A. Damon	2 67
Seth Curtis	8 00
J. Gammon	1 00
J. Warner	3 33
Dennis Gammon	1 00
for drain pipe	3 96
<hr/>	
Total	\$226 57

DISTRICT No. 3.

Appropriation	\$247 53
Paid Isaac Prouty	\$76 25
A. D. Vinal	8 00
Walter Simmons	21 28
C. E. Damon	2 62
W. H. Morse	8 50
O. C. Prouty	3 33
David W. Studley	15 33
W. Lincoln	5 17
R. Winslow	2 67

Paid A. W. Sprague	\$6 67
S. Cazneau	4 00
E. Litchfield	2 67
W. R. Vinal	21 16
F. W. Prouty	8 00
Thomas Kilborn	5 33
E. L. Tower	8 50
L. Richardson	1 87
Henry Stoddard	13 34
C. Studley	5 17
L. Lincoln	2 67
A. Winslow	2 67
J. Damon	3 33
Liba Litchfield	5 67
W. Cutler	5 17
<hr/>	
Total	\$239 37

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Appropriation \$191 13

Paid Henry L. Studley	\$57 26
John Cushing	18 75
Antoine Joseph	15 96
W. Merritt	5 32
John Freeman	9 31
Charles Leavitt	2 32
E. Cushing	75
Martin Cushing	36 12
Manuel Joseph	3 99
Arthur Studley	14 99
Elijah Litchfield	7 98
Joseph Hatch	15 44
George B. Hayden	1 99
R. Ellms	1 33
W. Briggs	4 55
John Hatch	15
B. Brown	1 33

Paid Nathaniel Ellms	\$1 33
Eugene Turner	90
Albert Litchfield	33
<hr/>	
Total	\$200 10

DISTRICT No. 5.

Appropriation	\$230 39
Paid Edward M. Sexton	\$82 63
David Griffiths	19 50
Nathan Sylvester	10 17
B. P. Foster	2 58
William Sylvester	4 96
G. Sylvester	8 16
C. Berrey	1 29
John Keheo	13 33
George W. Stetson	16 00
C. W. Sparrell	19 12
Lewis Raymond	14 84
S. Clapp	15 75
Arthur Merritt	83
Calvin Cromwell	2 66
George Barrell	2 67
N. B. Clapp	6 45
for use of plow	75
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Total	\$221 69

DISTRICT No. 6.

Appropriation	\$174 06
Paid A. Totman	\$38 87
Jerome Smith	7 98
J. T. Hatch	1 65
Colman Ford	22 98
John Monahon	7 20
Thomas Monahon	7 98
Frank Turner	13 96

Paid C. W. Pincin	\$14 94
W. Monahan	2 25
Frank Dana	16 10
W. Fitts	3 15
C. H. Litchfield	21 42
Bertie Litchfield	5 00
Francis Merritt	5 16
Elias Carr	12 34
G. Litchfield	90
Total	<hr/> \$181 92

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Appropriation	\$247 55
Paid Matthew Stetson	\$54 88
Josiah Stoddard	24 67
John S. Barker	16 67
Rogers Stetson	11 00
Henry A. Turner	9 08
William Freeman	1 00
Luther Howland	8 50
Thomas C. Sampson	6 67
Peter Hartt	4 33
Howard Packard	2 67
John Knapp	4 67
George P. Clapp	7 80
Abner Stetson	20 55
Waters B. Barker	17 34
Charles Pratt	9 17
Charles Simmons	8 75
William Tolman	1 50
Charles H. Merritt	8 33
W. K. Sylvester	6 33
John Beal	2 00
Cummings Litchfield	6 48
Gilbert Currill	6 00
Joel Monroe	1 33
Elijah Barstow	7 80
Total	<hr/> \$247 52

Extra Repairs of Highways and Bridges.

Appropriation \$450 00

For repairs near the house of James Merritt:—

Paid E. M. Sexton	\$12 03
Sylvanus Clapp	12 39
William Sylvester	12 39
David Griffith	5 83
George Sylvester	5 83
Lewis Raymond	5 83
Thomas Mee	1 33
Nathan Sylvester	5 83
Arthur Merritt	5 17
Use of plow and for gravel	6 34
Total	<hr/> \$72 97

For repairs on Main street near the house of N. P. Brownell:—

Paid Alexander Totman	\$26 87
Thomas Monahon	7 95
John Burns	4 00
W. Monahon	2 10
Reuben Griggs	7 98
R. Tilden	4 66
John Monahon	3 60
John Cook	6 40
Frank Dana	11 00
Benjamin Nichols	9 55
Francis Monahon	1 50
Horace Griggs	8 64
Frank Tilden	12 32
Frank Turner	1 42
C. W. Pincin	2 58
Total	<hr/> \$110 57

For repairs of Norwell avenue:—

Paid B. P. Foster	\$17 25
John Freeman	19 87
Amos T. Litchfield	5 75

Paid David W. Studley	\$14 25
W. T. Sylvester	25 50
Henry Stoddard	7 50
Freeman & Williamson, for removing wall to widen road	11 62
Howlett & Sampson, for blasting material . .	3 29
William S. Hatch, for gravel	3 66
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Total	\$108 69

For building section of new road on River street, and for gravel-
ing new road on River and Mill streets :—

Paid Matthew Stetson	\$57 14
Josiah Stoddard	60 15
Waters B. Barker	38 13
William Freeman	2 00
W. C. Tolman	17 42
Elijah Barstow	17 08
David Bassford	8 33
W. K. Sylvester	5 33
Rogers Stetson	29 33
Charles C. Pratt	18 25
Wilber Gardner	12 00
Gilbert Currill	12 00
Thomas C. Sampson	6 67
Howard Packard	5 33
F. A. Davis, for lanterns	2 00
Abner Stetson	54 58
Henry A. Turner	14 22
John S. Barker	15 08
Chester S. Barker	14 66
Peter Hartt	23 34
Wales Briggs	14 67
Joel Monroe	16 33
George Gardner	8 00
Luther Howland	16 50
Jack Enolds	2 00
George Chamberlain	12 00
Melvin Little	3 10

Paid Richard Wallace	\$2 67
William Rose	4 00
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Total	\$492 31

For extra labor on River street near the house of John Corthell :—

Paid Matthew Stetson	\$5 50
Henry A. Turner	1 33
W. Freeman	1 50
Josiah Stoddard	5 67
Charles Merritt	2 67
for gravel	72
	<hr/>
Total	\$17 39

For repairs of bridge on Main street, and for railing bridges on Cross and Parker streets, and for repairs of the same :—

Paid A. Totman and others	\$22 11
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For widening highway at corner of River and Elm streets :—

Paid William C. Tolman	\$10 03
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For stock and labor for railing bridges over Jacobs' mill-dam and Third Herring brook :—

Paid Damon & Mann, for labor	\$20 00
Frank Alger, for iron work	30 75
Dodge, Gilbert & Co., for iron	46 52
David Cushing, 2d, for lumber	54 79
Snow Bryant, for painting	20 83
Dexter Brothers, for paint stock	20 94
J. D. Grose, for iron and expressing	16 08
F. H. Curtis, for railing bridges	31 85
F. H. Curtis, services as committee	3 50
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\$245 26

Less \$102.06 paid by the town of Hanover 102 06

Total	\$143 20
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For repairs at corner of Mill and Common streets :—

Paid Josiah Stoddard	\$10 50
Peter Hartt	4 00
Abner Stetson	4 25
Thomas Sampson	2 67
Matthew Stetson	4 00
Elijah Barstow	67
Charles Gardner	3 33
Total	<u>\$29 42</u>

Repairs of Mill street :—

Paid Josiah Stoddard, for building 90 rods of new road at \$3.95 per rod	\$355 50
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Repairs of Mill and River streets :—

Paid John S. Barker, for building section of road 73 rods at \$2.45 per rod	\$178 85
A. Totman, for building section of road near the Unitarian Church (part pay)	175 00
R. P. Briggs, on account of building section of road on River Street, near the house of George H. Torrey (part pay)	250 00

Cost of building bridge over Third Herring brook :—

Paid R. P. Briggs	\$17 50
H. Barstow	7 50
D. Sprague	12 25
E. Sprague	9 00
Morris Gammon	7 50
E. Barstow	1 50
B. Barrell	12 25
J. Enolds	2 50
J. Bowker	1 62
blacksmith bill	1 00
team work	7 00
derrick	5 50

Total	<u>\$85 12</u>
To which add cost of railing the same	55 00
Total cost	<u>\$140 12</u>

Cost of widening Jacobs' mill-dam : —

Paid R. P. Briggs	\$68 00
Morris Gammon	61 50
W. Hayden	42 67
J. Bowker	5 75
L. Damon	2 00
Benjamin Jacobs	24 00
W. S. Briggs	39 00
E. Gammon	34 67
J. E. Gammon	13 33
S. Bowker	12 00
Herbert Sprague	12 00
Andrew Clapp	25 21
H. N. Gardner	8 60
R. P. & W. S. Briggs, team work	107 74
Benjamin Barrell	54 25
Daniel D. Sprague	59 50
S. Damon	12 00
Seth Curtis	29 33
E. Sprague	47 75
Barton R. Jacobs	46 27
Curtis Brothers	47 44
E. Damon	6 00
Edwin Jacobs	7 50
Waldo Jones	42 58
J. Bailey	3 00
S. Clapp	9 00
Frank Alger	5 65
for use of derrick	12 00
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Total	\$838 74
To which add cost of railing, 420 feet at 21 cents	88 20
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Total cost	\$926 94

Removing Snow.

Paid Walter Simmons, District No. 3	\$8 12
Josiah Stoddard, District No. 7	8 88
William W. Colamore, District No. 1	1 25
Total	<u>\$18 25</u>
Paid for gravel for the several districts	\$86 58
for drain pipe for the several districts	48 93
Total	<u>\$135 51</u>

Supplies to Almshouse.

Paid Joseph Merritt and others, for standing wood	\$25 62
Martin L. Hall, for groceries	3 88
Thomas Tolman, groceries and dry goods	280 22
Skinner & Arnold, for butter and meat	54 07
A. L. Damon, for bread	42 68
E. A. Turner, for dry goods and groceries	112 01
J. Torrey & Co., for soap	5 10
Sylvanus Clapp, for swine	6 00
George O. Torrey, for killing hogs	3 00
C. A. Cole, for grain	50 20
J. Hatch, for meat	32 15
E. T. Fogg, for dry goods and groceries	275 04
H. Callender & Co., for groceries	18 55
F. M. Litchfield, for coal	18 37
J. Merritt, for pasturing cows	8 00
Seth Foster, for supplies and expressing	15 00
H. B. Wilmot, for clothing	4 00
Jarius M. Healey, as superintendent, and for supplies	259 63
S. W. Eastman, for tin-ware	13 12
C. W. Sparrell, for coffin for Hannah Ells	15 00
C. H. Litchfield, for fresh fish, &c.	11 73
J. H. Corthell, for meat	68 56
N. P. Brownell, medical attendance	17 00
Total	<u>\$1,338 93</u>

ALMSHOUSE CREDIT.

Received for meals and lodgings	\$10 63
Received from sale of calf	5 22
Due from Commonwealth for board of J. T. Prince	22 00
Board, medical attendance, &c., of inmates	1,301 08
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Total	\$1,338 93

SUPPLIES FURNISHED OUT OF ALMSHOUSE TO PERSONS HAVING
A SETTLEMENT IN THIS TOWN.

Paid town of Scituate, for allowance to Mr. Birch- more	\$10 00
Dr. Brownell, for medical attendance to Hannah E. Sylvester	28 00
E. T. Fogg, for groceries to Hannah E. Sylvester	7 50
C. W. Sparrell, for coffin, Hannah E. Sylvester	12 00
for medical attendance and supplies to Sarah Harris	35 63
Dr. Brownell, medical attendance to Hannah Enolds	10 00
C. W. Sparrell, for coffin, Hannah Enolds	15 00
T. Mee, for opening grave, Hannah Enolds	3 00
Mrs. Freeman, for nursing Hannah Enolds	6 00
Dr. Howes, for medical attendance to family of N. J. Stoddard	27 50
Dr. Howes, for medical attendance to Mary Pal- mer	15 50
supplies to Hannah L. Stoddard, wood, medical attendance and groceries	60 31
Dr. Brownell, medical attendance to L. G. Fitts	14 00
town of Kingston, for aid to E. B. Howland	1 70
town of Duxbury, for aid to C. D. Mann and family	48 00
E. T. Fogg, for allowance to Rebecca Thompson	3 00
town of Weymouth, for aid to Mrs. Mee	45 25
city of Taunton, for aid to A. T. Clapp and wife	113 45
Alpheus Damon, supplies to Benjamin Sprague	104 00
E. T. Fogg, for allowance to Patrick Spellman	39 00
supplies to Mary Monahon and family	117 00

Paid Dr. Brownell, medical attendance family of E. Gunderway	\$6 00
M. G. Hunt, for 20 nights' services, care of George N. Wilder	40 00
	<hr/>
Total	\$761 84

ALLOWANCE TO PERSONS HAVING A SETTLEMENT IN OTHER TOWNS
OR THE STATE.

Paid supplies to Joshua F. Prince and family . . .	\$197 88
allowance to Mary A. Studley and family . . .	39 75
supplies to Bethuel W. Thomas and family . . .	58 44
allowance to Hewitt Baker	6 50
allowance to wife of I. N. Fitts	3 00
allowance to Lucy A. Smith, medical attendance and coffin	22 00
supplies to Mary F. Stetson and family . . .	200 80
allowance to Henry Carter	18 50
supplies to Clarissa Morris, coffin, etc. . . .	22 00
supplies to Josiah Caldwell and family . . .	22 65
supplies to Cornelius Curtis	4 00
supplies to Harriet Beach	96 25
supplies to Pheba Simpson	84 25
Dr. French, medical attendance to family of Ambrose Beach	5 50
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Total	\$781 52

Town Officers and Committees.

Charles H. Merritt, for services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor to March, 1880 . . .	\$7 50
F. H. Curtis, for same services	13 50
C. A. Litchfield, for same services and writing report . .	25 50
Franklin Jacobs, services as School Committee and writing school report	19 30
Samuel S. Knapp, for services as School Committee . .	46 00
Emily T. Jacobs, for same services	43 00

C. A. Litchfield, for services as Selectman and Overseer of the Poor from March to January 1, 1881, 35 days at \$1.50 per day	\$52 50
F. H. Curtis, for same services 24 days at \$1.50 per day	36 00
H. A. Turner, for same services 20 days at \$1.50 per day	30 00
C. A. Litchfield, for services as Assessor	50 00
F. H. Curtis, for same services 25 days	50 00
H. A. Turner, for same services 12½ days	25 00
C. A. Litchfield, for extra services as Assessor 5 days	10 00
Cash paid for railroad fares on account extra services	13 20
F. H. Curtis, for expenses to New Bedford	4 68
H. A. Turner, for expenses to New Bedford	4 68
George K. Cushing, as sealer of weights and measures	10 00
Ansel G. Groce, as Committee on Mill-dam	3 00
Horatio N. Gardner, for same services	3 00
Samuel Tolman, for same services	3 00
Benjamin Jacobs, for same services	3 00
C. A. Litchfield, for copying valuation books for the use of the Commonwealth	10 00
F. H. Curtis, same services	10 00
H. A. Turner, same services	5 00
Samuel Tolman, Committee District No. 2, 1877	6 00
Liba Litchfield, Committee District No. 3	1 00
H. M. Sleason, for enumeration of children, District No. 7	3 00
C. W. Sparrell, for returning deaths	10 00
H. A. Turner, for expenses to Weymouth	1 67
E. T. Fogg, for registering marriages, births, and deaths	27 05
Total	\$526 58

Statistics from the United States Census of 1880:—

Number of inhabitants in town, June 1: Males, 925; females, 895; total population, 1,820. Number of families, 458. Persons over 80 years of age, 26. Population by Census of 1870, 1,661. Increase in the past ten years, 159.

Ordinary Expenses of the Town.

Charles H. Merritt, for ballot box	\$2 50
Samuel Waters, for surveying wood	1 25
David Bassford and others, for watching fires	8 00
Avery & Doten, for printing town report	88 55
Perez Simmons, for legal advice to January 1, 1880	23 00
Rand, Avery & Co., and others, for stationery and printing	13 10
Cash paid for Assessors' books	3 00
George L. Brownell, for hearse	570 00
F. H. Curtis, for labor on hearse-house	7 50
Samuel Turner, for lumber and labor	8 50
W. Torrey, for cash paid on account of liquor nuisances	53 75
Samuel Turner, for labor on wharf at town landing	8 50
Avery & Doten, for printing voting lists	11 00
Joseph Merritt, for smith work	16 76
M. Day & Co., for well pipe	48 90
Dennis Cashman, and others, for labor on wells	122 00
Whittemore Brothers, for pump	14 70
James T. Cashman, carting well pipe	30 00
E. T. Fogg, for postage and stationery	9 07
C. W. Sparrell, for labor and cash paid for well	15 89
Seth Foster, for expressing, &c.	19 84
E. A. Turner, supplies to almshouse, 1879	21 14
Total	\$1,096 95

Taxes Abated or Given Up.

W. Henderson, estate 1876	\$0 52
Isaac Loring, 1876	92
Horace J. Stevens, 1877	2 00
J. J. Damon estate, 1878-79	1 17
George Sturdevant, 1878-79	4 66
Albert Winslow, 1878-79	3 00
Peter Smith, 1878	3 30
George Russel, 1878-79	3 00
Andrew N. Green, 1878-79	3 50

J. W. Foster, 1878	\$2 00
Josiah Caldwell, 1878-79	3 68
George A. Curtis, 1878	2 65
Louisa Rogers, 1878-79	2 14
Jotham Rogers, 1878	2 00
Albert B. Loring, 1878	7 20
J. C. Brown, 1878	1 88
E. J. Ford, 1879	1 68
Charles Le Roy, 1878-79	3 68
Frank H. Jackson, 1878	2 00
John H. Holmes, 1878	2 42
Hosea Gardner, 1878	2 00
Harrison Wilder, 1878-79	3 68
Delmont O. Cushing, 1878-79	3 68
Cushing O. Studley, 1878	2 00
William B. Damon, 1878	2 00
Luke G. Fitts, 1878-79	6 39
Frank L. Lincoln, 1878-79	3 68
Herbert Turner, 1879	1 68
Rufus Winslow, 1879	2 93
George A. Wilder, 1879	1 68
Patrick Leslie, 1879	5 27
A. N. Beach, 1879	1 00
J. F. Ford, 1878	2 00
<hr/>	
Total	\$91 39

• **Town Hall Account.**

Received of Pinafore Club	\$4 00
Reading Club	4 00
Post 112, G. A. R.	28 00
South Scituate Brass Band	6 00
Steadfast Lodge, I. O. of G. T.	4 96
Minstrel Troupe	5 50
John Corthell	12 00
Ladies' Sewing Society	6 00
<hr/>	
Total	\$70 46

<i>Total Receipts brought forward</i>	.	.	.	.	.	\$70 46
Paid J. M. Healy, care of hall	.	.	.	.	\$7 50	
F. M. Litchfield, for coal	.	.	.	.	4 02	
Levi M. Osburn, for mason work	.	.	.	.	12 35	
C. W. Sparrell, for labor and material	.	.	.	.	4 00	
for wax, chimneys, cleaning house, etc.	.	.	.	.	5 47	
					<hr/>	33 34

Balance in favor of Hall paid to Treasurer \$37 12

A. J. LITCHFIELD, *Agent*.

Recapitulation.

1	Incidental expenses	.	.	.	.	.	\$1,096 95
2	Almshouse expenses	.	.	.	.	.	1,301 08
3	School books	.	.	.	.	.	367 11
4	Extra repairs on roads and bridges	.	.	.	.	.	2,889 90
5	Town officers and committees	.	.	.	.	.	526 58
6	Taxes abated and given up	.	.	.	.	.	91 29
7	Assistance out of almshouse	.	.	.	.	.	1,543 36
8	Gravel and drain pipe	.	.	.	.	.	135 51
9	Repairs of highways	.	.	.	.	.	1,475 43
10	State aid	.	.	.	.	.	832 00
11	Removing snow	.	.	.	.	.	18 25
12	Incidental expenses for schools	.	.	.	.	.	206 10
13	State tax	.	.	.	.	.	930 00
14	County tax	.	.	.	.	.	1,227 45
						<hr/>	
	Total	.	.	.	.	.	\$12,641 01

LIST OF JURORS.

Names of jurors for acceptance or revision by the town at its annual meeting.

Nathaniel B. Clapp.
Andrew J. Litchfield.
George W. Curtis.
Henry F. Vining.
W. S. Briggs.
Henry T. Jenkins.
Edward W. Brooks.
Edward Stowell.
Joseph T. Hartt.
David Stoddard.
I. H. Packard.
Samuel Tolman.
Nathaniel Ellms.
Waters B. Barker.
Alpheus Thomas.

John G. Briggs.
U. H. Percival.
John Turner, 2d.
William Prouty, Jr.
E. T. Fogg.
Henry A. Turner.
Cummings Litchfield.
Seth H. Vinal.
Horatio N. Gardner.
Freeman Higgins.
George H. Bates.
Charles A. Litchfield.
Alphonzo Reed.
Samuel Turner.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COFFIN FUND.

Amount of fund	\$2,000 00
Received of E. T. Fogg, Treasurer, interest	\$100 00

There has been paid out as follows :—

Thomas Mee, labor and care of lot	\$8 50
Elisha Colman, cash	10 00
Mary Leslie, cash paid for wood	10 00
Mrs. Cromwell, groceries	1 00
Sarah E. Harris, wood and boots	5 25
Children of Mary Monahan, boots	6 25
Mary Ford, coal and cash	9 00
	50 00

Balance	\$50 00
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The balance of the income from the fund, amounting to \$50, will be paid out during the present winter, and is now on deposit in the savings bank.

C. A. LITCHFIELD,	}	<i>Trustees of the Coffin Fund.</i>
FRED H. CURTIS,		
H. A. TURNER,		

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE TOWN JANUARY 1, 1881.

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Notes in favor of Joseph T. Litchfield	\$1,325 00
Notes in favor of R. N. C. Turner	575 00
Notes in favor of Nathaniel Turner	300 00
Notes in favor of J. C. Tolman	300 00
Notes in favor of C. W. Sylvester	470 00
Notes in favor of H. T. Sylvester	200 00
Notes in favor of E. Stetson	200 00
Notes in favor of Nathan Cushing	1,000 00
Notes in favor of D. B. Ford	1,025 00
Notes in favor of South Scituate Savings Bank . .	4,017 00
Note in favor of the Coffin Fund	2,000 00
Estimated amount of outstanding bills and orders .	400 00
Interest due on above notes to date	160 00
Due New England School Furnishing Company for school books and mats	200 00

\$12,172 00

ASSETS OF THE TOWN.

Outstanding taxes in hands of Collector .	\$4,639 78
Cash in hands of Treasurer	1,748 65
Due from Commonwealth for State aid . .	837 50
Due from State and towns for aid to paupers .	635 20
Due from State for corporation taxes . .	50 00
Estimated amount due from school fund . .	232 00
School books in hands of agents	239 15
Due from Hingham for schooling	12 00
Due from H. Wright for schooling	12 00
Due from Charles Jacobs for schooling . .	15 00
	<hr/>
	8,421 28

Total debt of the town \$3,750 72

ASSESSOR'S DEPARTMENT.

VALUATION OF THE TOWN MAY 1, 1880.

Real estate	\$671,061 00
Personal estate	207,457 00
<hr/>	
Total	\$884,518 00
Increase from 1879	\$30,577 00
Rate of taxation on \$1,000	10 80
Number of polls	511
Number of dwelling-houses	413
Number of cows	289
Number of horses	329
Number of sheep	57
Number of acres of land	12,285

We can certainly have no cause for complaint if we compare our rate of taxation with those of our neighboring towns; yet it will be well for us to consider, when extensive improvements are asked for, if real estate can well bear the burden of taxation, for it is quite easy to cover up personal property and place the burden of taxation on real estate. Our rate of taxation should not exceed \$10 on \$1,000 for the year 1881, which rate would probably reduce our debt at least \$1,000, besides paying all ordinary expenses for the year; yet you will find it difficult to keep within this limit unless you cut off expensive schemes of doubtful necessity. The total debt of the town is now about \$3,750.

Respectfully submitted,

C. A. LITCHFIELD,	}	<i>Assessors.</i>
F. H. CURTIS,		
H. A. TURNER,		

1200, 30

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT

— FOR THE —

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 1, 1881.

E. T. FOGG, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE TOWN
OF SOUTH SCITUATE.

Dr.

To balance due January 1, 1880	\$6,605 27
To cash received as follows:—	
State, for school funds, 1879	232 58
Scituate, for support of poor, 1879	123 00
Hingham, for support of poor, 1879	174 60
E. W. French, for stone posts	4 00
Duxbury, for support of poor, 1879	10 00
Hanover, for support of poor, 1879	8 00
Taunton, for support of poor, 1879	120 50
County dog fund, 1879	102 85
South Scituate Institution for Savings, borrowed in anticipation of taxes	800 00
Sale of grass on town flats	75 00
Balance of corporation tax, 1879	22 84
Weymouth, for support of poor, 1880	50 00
Pembroke, for support of poor, 1880	9 50
State, on account of paupers	8 00
Nathan Whiting, for schooling	3 00
Peddlers' licenses	30 00
Corporation tax refunded	1,626 81
National bank tax refunded	1,734 76
State aid	872 00
Hingham, on account of poor, 1880	199 43
Hanover, for railing bridges	102 06
Dog tax refunded, 1880	143 33
E. T. Fogg, for sale of school books	111 20

R. W. Killam, for sale of school books . . .	\$77 33
A. J. Litchfield, agent of town hall . . .	37 12
Assessment of May 1, 1880 . . .	10,516 13
Total . . .	<u>\$23,799 31</u>

Cr.

By cash paid as follows :—

Selectmen's orders, town allowances and bills ap- proved by school committee . . .	\$13,716 68
Notes and interest . . .	1,248 25
County tax . . .	1,227 45
State tax . . .	930 00
Scituate tax . . .	13 06
Discount on account of prompt payment of taxes . . .	175 44
Treasurer's salary . . .	100 00
Amount of outstanding taxes . . .	4,639 78
Cash to balance in treasury . . .	<u>1,748 65</u>
Total . . .	<u>\$23,799 31</u>

We, the undersigned, a committee chosen by the town to settle with the Treasurer, have examined the foregoing account and find it correct and properly vouched.

C. A. LITCHFIELD,	} Committee.
F. H. CURTIS,	
H. A. TURNER,	

List of Marriages Registered in South Scituate for the Year 1880.

DATE.	NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	AGE.	PLACE OF BIRTH.	WHERE AND BY WHOM MARRIED.
Jan. 3	Walter H. Clark, Elizabeth J. Bradley,	Hanover . . . Hanover . . .	25 . . . 18 . . .	Abington . . . Abington . . .	South Scituate, by Augustus P. Rein.
Feb. 14	Allston R. Coleman, Martha J. Currell,	Brockton . . . South Scituate . . .	28 . . . 25 . . .	South Scituate . . . South Scituate . . .	South Scituate, by William Henry Brooks.
April 8	Edwin A. Damon, Mary E. Sprague,	South Scituate . . . South Scituate . . .	22 . . . 24 . . .	South Scituate . . . South Scituate . . .	South Scituate, by W. H. Dowden.
11	Joseph L. Brown, Julia B. Winslow,	South Scituate . . . Hanover . . .	25 . . . 18 . . .	Stoughton . . . South Scituate . . .	South Scituate, by William C. Litchfield.
15	William W. Brewster, Nellie F. Pratt,	South Scituate . . . Hingham . . .	20 . . . 19 . . .	Duxbury . . . Hingham . . .	By Andrew Read, of Hanover.
May 1	George Litchfield, Amelia L. Marsh,	Scituate . . . Scituate . . .	24 . . . 20 . . .	Scituate . . . Scituate . . .	By William H. Fish, of South Scituate.
3	Lincoln Damon, Eliza S. Crossley,	Marshfield . . . Marshfield . . .	26 . . . 20 . . .	Marshfield . . . Marshfield . . .	By William H. Fish, of South Scituate.
June 9	John F. Osborne, Louisa C. Donney,	South Scituate . . . Boston . . .	22 . . . 18 . . .	East Bridgewater Boston . . .	By H. B. Hibben, of Scituate.
30	William E. Wilder, Lillie C. Ayling,	South Scituate . . . South Scituate . . .	22 . . . 19 . . .	South Scituate . . . Boston . . .	By William H. Fish, of South Scituate.
July 11	Albert Osborne, Mary A. Studley,	South Scituate . . . South Scituate . . .	29 . . . 35 . . .	East Bridgewater Quincy . . .	By H. B. Hibben, of Scituate.
16	Charles L. Stoddard, Carrie W. Henderson,	South Scituate . . . Hanover . . .	25 . . . 17 . . .	Scituate . . . Hanover . . .	By Andrew Read, of Hanover.

Sept.	2	Silas Newcomb, Anna A. Tirrell,	.	.	.	Weymouth	.	.	23	Colasset	.	By H. P. Haylett, of South Scituate.
			.	.	.	Weymouth	.	.	16	Weymouth	.	.
Oct.	31	Henry F. Ford, Lucy E. Litchfield,	.	.	.	South Scituate.	.	.	38	Marshfield	.	By E. Porter Dyer, clergyman.
			.	.	.	Pembroke	.	.	23	South Scituate	.	.
Nov.	23	Joseph H. Vining, Alice M. Leavitt,	.	.	.	South Scituate.	.	.	25	South Scituate	.	By William H. Fish, of South Scituate.
			.	.	.	South Scituate	.	.	23	Hanover	.	.
	25	John H. Butler, Melissa Prince,	.	.	.	Weymouth	.	.	39	Norfolk, Va.	.	By W. H. Dowden, minister.
			.	.	.	South Scituate	.	.	21	South Scituate	.	.
	25	Alden D. Turner, Lillian A. Turner,	.	.	.	Pembroke	.	.	24	Quincy	.	By David B. Ford, of South Scituate.
			.	.	.	Pembroke	.	.	19	Pembroke	.	.
	25	James C. Jones, Hattie L. Sherman,	.	.	.	South Scituate	.	.	24	South Scituate	.	By Samuel L. Beal, clergyman.
			.	.	.	Brockton	.	.	20	New Bedford	.	.

Number of marriages registered, 17.

List of Deaths Registered in South Scituate for the Year 1880.

DATE.	NAMES.	AGE.		CAUSE OF DEATH.	BIRTHPLACE.
		YRS.	MOS.		
Feb.	5 Patrick Leslie	39		Pneumonia	Ireland.
	6 Lucy A. Smith	54		Consumption	Boston.
	15 Daniel Jones	66	9	Typhoid pneumonia	Boston.
	18 Hannah Enolds	36		Inflammation	South Scituate.
	24 Sallie Harris	69	10	Obstruction of bowels	Scituate.
March	26 Merrill Stevens	57	5	Erysipelas	South Scituate.
	30 John K. Nash	78	4	Softening of brain	South Scituate.
April	3 Hannah E. yvester	39	9	Consumption	South Scituate.
	19 Benjamin R. Jacobs	90		Old age	South Scituate.
	21 Edelle Gardner	4	5	Malformation of heart	South Scituate.
	22 Edwin Merritt	51	4	Complication of diseases	South Scituate.
May	15 William H. Talbot	61		Apoplexia of cerebra	Warren, R. I.
	17 Susie D. Richards	13	10	Consumption	Boston.
	19 Abial Turner	81	3	Pneumonia	Scituate.
	30 Mary Briggs	62	7	Softening of brain	Scituate.
June	7 Clarissa Morris	51		Cancer	Hingham.
	12 Albert B. Loving	40	2	Diabetes	Hingham.
	12 James Edwin Briggs	59		Heart disease	South Scituate.
July	19 Seeva Chandler	75	7	Ossification of heart	Duxbury.
	23 Ella Humphrey	21		Inflammation os bowels	New Bedford.
Aug.	3 Piam Jacobs	67	7	Typhoid fever	South Scituate.
	12 Francis R. Litchfield	21	7	Cholera infantum	South Scituate.
	13 Elias W. Pratt	81		Typhoid fever	Easton.
	26 Sereeno Tilden	36		Abdominal disease	South Scituate.
	26 Roxano Grace	88	10	Old age	Hingham.
	29 Edna F. Litchfield	1	11	Brain disease	South Scituate.
Sept.	4 Sarah M. Bailey	26	5	Typhoid fever	Scituate.
	8 Mary Palmer	76	3	Diarrhea	Scituate.
	12 ———— Gunderway			Congenital weakness	South Scituate.

Oct.	13	Julia Southworth	.	.	.	.	.	8	Chronic gastritis	.	.	.	Setuate.
	17	Thomas Barstow	.	.	.	.	.	6	Heart disease	.	.	.	P. E. Island.
	20	Lydia Turner	.	.	.	.	.		Paralysis	.	.	.	South Setuate.
	6	Eliza Litchfield	.	.	.	.	.	5	Dropsy	.	.	.	Setuate.
Nov.	1	Deborah F. Grace	.	.	.	.	.	89	Old age	.	.	.	Hingham.
	6	Ruth S. Stetson	.	.	.	.	.	3	Consumption	.	.	.	South Setuate.
	22	Joshua F. Prince	.	.	.	.	.	53	Consumption	.	.	.	South Setuate.
	23	Charles W. Robbins	.	.	.	.	.	3	Congestion of bowels	.	.	.	South Setuate.
Dec.	9	Mary Patterson	.	.	.	.	.	7	Old age	.	.	.	Framingham.
	24	Hannah S. Ellis	.	.	.	.	.		Nervous prostration	.	.	.	South Setuate.
	24	Ella M. Fitts	.	.	.	.	.	6	Cerebro spinal meningitis	.	.	.	Hull.

Number of deaths registered, 40.

Average age at time of death, about 52 years.

Births Registered in South Scituate for the Year 1880.

DATE.	NAME OF CHILD.	NAME OF PARENTS.
1879		
March 24	Edward M. Sprowl . . .	Frederick E. and Sarah A.
June 6	Benjamin Franklin Burns . .	John W. and Anna M.
1880		
Jan. 7	Frank Alfred Sears . . .	Alfred J. and Mary E.
8	Herbert Augustus Curtis . .	Seth A. and Hattie S.
25	Mabel Frances Cromwell . .	Lorenzo and Lucy A.
Feb. 19	John Henry Sparrell . . .	Charles W. and Susan M.
March 30	Harry Elwood Hatch . . .	Joseph H. and Henrietta L.
May 15	James Albert Smith . . .	Albert T. and Ruth J.
28	Flora Thomas Franks . . .	Henry and Maria L.
25	Francis Richards Litchfield . .	William C. and Harriet A.
June 2	Isabel May Osborne . . .	Levi N. and Julia M.
2	Elsie Mehitable Fitts . . .	Lyman B. and Martha E.
25	Eva Josephine Jacobs . . .	Joseph W. and Clara J.
July 8	Clarence Irving Vinal . . .	Asa L. and Emma D.
20	Mabel Preston Dyer . . .	Frank and Laura A.
22	Percy Wells Cowing . . .	George C. and Lydia H.
Aug. 2	Howard Franklin Corthel . .	Joseph H. and Mercy E.
21	Oscar Howard Gunderway . .	Thomas H. and Addie R.
29	Lizzie Blanchard Loring . .	Edwin L. and Mary L.
Sept. 9	Edna Florence Henderson . .	William F. and Mary L.
13	Bertha Salone Stoddard . . .	Alonza H. and Lydia A.
14	Clara May Merrill . . .	Andrew H. and Anna G.
23	Sarah Frances Richardson . .	Andrew S. and Mahala.
28	Arthur Francis Henderson . .	Francis E. and Rosa E.
Oct. 10	Nellie Porter Whiting . . .	Austin P. and Maggie M.
14	—— Litchfield . . .	E. Clifford and M. Florence.
30	Clara Allen Damon . . .	Edwin A. and Mary E.
Nov. 12	Gertrude Florence Brewster . .	Charles E. and Mary H.
18	Thomas Garfield Lynch . . .	Michael and Bridget
19	—— Gunderway . . .	Ezekiel E. and Lucy E.
20	Johanna Shean . . .	Timothy and Johanna.
20	Walter Murray Jones . . .	George W. and Lucy A.
25	Amrose James Cox . . .	Thomas A. and Rosa A.
26	—— Prouty . . .	Oliver B. and Carrie T.
28	Flora Nash . . .	Franklin and Eunice C.

Number of births registered, 35.

ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

—OF THE—

TOWN OF SOUTH SCITUATE

FOR THE YEAR 1880.

REPORT.

The School Committee herewith respectfully submit their annual report for the year ending January 1, 1881. Your Committee was organized as follows: S. S. Knapp, Chairman, and Miss C. C. Turner, Secretary. On the resignation of Miss C. C. Turner, a most efficient member of this Board, at a joint meeting of the Selectmen and School Committee, of which public notice was duly given, Mr. C. A. Litchfield was elected to membership until the annual March meeting. Mrs. Emily T. Jacobs was, at a subsequent meeting of the Committee, elected Secretary.

Your Committee has met, in general, with the hearty co-operation of parents, school-agents and teachers in their endeavors to promote interest in school matters and increase the efficiency of our school system. Early in the current year the salary of teachers was fixed as follows: Teachers of primary grades, five dollars per week; maximum to lady teachers, eight dollars per week; maximum to male teachers, ten dollars per week—male teachers to be employed for less than ten dollars per week when possible or expedient.

The length of school terms was fixed at twelve weeks each, or an aggregate of thirty-six weeks. Accordingly, from April, 1880, to April, 1881, the schools will be in session thirty-six weeks, in all districts.

The average number registered as belonging to the schools has been 291, and the total expenditure for school purposes, exclusive of repairs and supervision (see detailed report of expenditures), has been \$2,860.83, making the cost per pupil \$9.83 for the year.

We have not been fortunate in procuring teachers equally desirable for all the schools. Districts Nos. 5 and 6 have suffered from an enforced change of teachers, No. 5 having had three and No. 6 four different teachers during the year. These schools are now, however, under able management, Mr. Frank W. Brett being employed at No. 5 and Mr. J. Q. A. Pettingill at No. 6. The other schools

have been, during the year, under the same teachers as a year ago, it being the policy of the Committee to retain, when possible, teachers who have shown competency to meet the requirements of their situations.

The opening of the fall term at No. 4 was necessarily postponed two weeks, owing to the illness of the teacher. The present term will, however, be lengthened two weeks, making the length of the school year, as in all districts, thirty-six weeks. The primary and grammar grades at No. 7 were, as then reported, united during the winter term for 1879-80, the number attending (45) not seeming to warrant the support of two schools. Two schools have been in session during the summer and fall terms, and, owing to an increase in the number attending, both are now in operation.

The adoption of the *Course of Study* as noticed in the last annual report has resulted beneficially, and we now find pupils of the same age in the different schools pursuing comparatively the same studies. We notice *in some of the schools*, too, an increased interest among the pupils in their studies, which we attribute in part to this cause, as well as to the healthy incentive offered by the increased attention and interest of the teachers. We speak advisedly when we refer to an increased interest in *some schools*. In others we have looked in vain for an increased, or, we may say, for any real interest in school work.

It is believed that the monthly written examination given by the teachers on the work of the preceeding month has also been an advantage to the schools. It has a tendency to cultivate the memory of the pupil. It affords practice in writing and the framing of complete sentences, both of which are highly desirable, and is productive of a spirit of emulation.

The *attendance*, as may be seen by reference to the abstract of registers (p. 50), has been up to that of previous years. With an average number registered of 291, we have had an average attendance of 238.9 pupils, or eighty-two and a fraction per cent.; *i. e.*, of the average number (291) *belonging*, there has been *present* in the schools an average number of 238.9 pupils. It will be seen, however, that the average attendance in some districts, notably in Nos. 5 and 7, has been lower than could be desired, while the general average of attendance has been somewhat increased by the better attendance in Districts Nos. 1 and 2. We shall speak of this subject further,

on page 44. It may be remarked here that there are in town quite a number of children of ages at which they are required by law to attend school at least a portion of the year, who do not attend at all. It is the duty of school committees and truant officers to see that every child between the ages of eight and fourteen attends some school (not necessarily a public school) at least twenty weeks per year. We are afraid that your officers have been remiss in this matter, as well as in regard to truants. We bespeak for the ensuing year greater attention to these subjects.

The school-agents report the destruction, mischievously or maliciously, during the year, of a considerable amount of school property. At District No. 6 windows have been broken repeatedly, window frames over the doors demolished, an underpinning stone removed, and holes bored in the floor of the building. At No. 7 glass has been broken. These depredations have been in part committed by pupils and in part by those not connected with the schools. Both have been remonstrated with when detected and made to pay cost of repairs when possible. There would be, naturally, as much breakage at a public school building as at a private residence, but your Committee are of opinion that parties breaking accidentally should repair damage, and that parties breaking maliciously should be severely dealt with. The destruction of public property should in no wise be permitted. The constabulary can exert a wholesome influence in this matter. The Committee will ask their assistance should further offences be committed. Teachers, too, are again instructed to exercise a watchful care over and for the school property. Have an eye to the building and its surroundings. It is in your care and you should be aware of any damage thereto.

Closely related to this subject is that of *immorality* among children. Our educational system has been wisely framed for the purpose of fitting our youth for citizenship, and contemplates the the elevation of the moral nature as well as the promotion of intelligence. The statutes require the inculcation, both by precept and practice, of principles of honesty, sobriety and virtue. We have small ground for complaint, in this respect, with a larger part of our youth. There have been, however, some cases of indecent behavior and language, of profanity, and, we regret to say it, of intoxication among our youth. The cases are rare, indeed, but their existence calls upon all to disparage them and to exercise a coun-

teracting influence. That which is criminal must be punished, but it is better, by far, to lead by salutary example to paths of virtue. With a small foreign element among our citizens, we have been surprised to find that many of our youth have little or no home instruction; that home influence, in many cases, is adverse to mental or moral growth. This fact justifies us in inviting the co-operation of the better classes in the wholesome admonition and influence referred to.

The Committee would call attention of parents and guardians to the fact that, contrary to the statute relating thereto, there are quite a number of unvaccinated children in attendance on our schools. To insure safety in this direction, on and after the opening of the spring term no child will be permitted to attend the schools who has not been vaccinated.

It is a fact beyond the control of your Committee that the town's children do not enjoy equal advantages for procuring an education at the hands of the town. It will be seen by reference to the following table that Districts 1, 2 and 7 have a much larger number of children than either of the others:—

NUMBER OF CHILDREN.	DISTRICTS.						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Number of children between 5 and 15, as enumerated by requirement of State May 1, 1880	64	62	36	*	*	*	60

*Aggregate, 101.

These districts have schools of grammar and primary grades, each grade having about as many pupils as are found in one ungraded school in the other districts. The advantages of the graded over the ungraded schools need but to be pointed out to show that a child living in Districts 3, 4, 5 or 6 is far less favored than those living in 1, 2 or 7. Some of these advantages may be mentioned as follows:—

(1.) In primary grade he is with children of his own age. His attention is not divided by the recitation of older pupils in subjects which can promote only wonder.

(2.) In primary grade the teacher can give personal attention to the many wants of the little ones, as she can not do in a mixed school, especially if it be large.

(3.) The teacher also has time to devote to the thorough instruction in the elements, than which nothing is more desirable.

(4.) The pupil is desirous, when he has attained the proper age, to be promoted to the grammar grade, and if he is hardly prepared for promotion his deficiency stimulates to renewed effort.

(5.) We have noticed, too, that parents who would never inquire about their children if in a mixed school, are anxious that they may not remain in primary grade after they are taller than their mates.

(6.) The promotion from primary to grammar grade has in itself a beneficial influence. The surroundings are new. The subjects under discussion or illustration are new, and the pupil is anxious to gain some knowledge of them. The child enters upon this new course as a man enters upon a new trade or profession, with a determination to master it.

(7.) The number who are pursuing the same study is larger than in mixed schools, and a desire to excel offers to an ambitious pupil an incentive to study.

(8.) The number of classes and consequent hurried recitations do not permit the teachers of ungraded schools to accomplish so good results as those of graded schools.

These illustrations will suffice to show the advantages afforded to the children of Districts 1, 2 and 7, above those afforded to those of 3, 4, 5 or 6. Neither of these districts is large enough to support graded schools, but if one or two grammar schools, desirably located, could be established, to be attended by children of two or three of the districts named, the present buildings being retained for primary schools, such a plan would effect great good. This plan was noticed in the last annual report, but we are not aware that any action has been taken upon it. Any action must, of course, arise with the districts mentioned.

Your Committee refrain from commenting individually on the qualifications of the teachers employed, or the results they have attained as shown by the aptness of their pupils. Public examinations of all the schools were held at the close of the winter term.

They were, in general, quite well attended, and although a public examination is never a fair test of the proficiency of the pupil, it may give to those present some key to the methods of the system. A private written examination has been recently given by a member of this Committee. This was a new departure in our town, and was given for these reasons :—

(1.) To accustom the pupils to express rapidly and accurately their thoughts on paper.

(2.) As a test of the general knowledge of the pupils of the schools.

(3.) By giving the same questions to all pupils of a certain age (twelve and upward), to form an idea of the needs of the pupil.

(4.) To enable each pupil to see what relative rank he might gain in his class by a test of this sort, and thus stimulate all to further effort.

(5.) To show the teachers how the answers given by their classes would compare with answers given by other classes to the same questions,

(6.) To exhibit to the town the general average which each school would gain on the same set of questions.

The examination included spelling, history, geography and grammar. Questions were necessarily very easy and of a general character. Words selected for spelling were from a copy of the *Hingham Journal*. Questions in geography included such as these: (1.) "About how many inhabitants has Boston?" (2.) "About how many inhabitants has South Scituate?" (3.) "Name some place in the United States remarkable for the beauty of its natural scenery." (4.) "Where, in the United States, is coal found?" In history: (1.) "When and where did the Pilgrims land?" (2.) "Who commanded the Americans at the battle of Bunker Hill?" (3.) "Who was the first president?" (4.) "How long did he serve?" and (5) "Has any president served longer?" In grammar an easy sentence was given for writing and punctuation, the verbs and adverbs to be underlined.

Without commenting on any answers given, we give the general results of the test. The answers in each subject were marked on a scale of 100, that being the mark of a perfect paper. The papers

were also marked for their general appearance, on the same scale. This gave five separate marks for each pupil. By adding these marks and dividing by five the average mark of the pupil was found. The averages of the several pupils taking the examination in each school were added and the amount divided by the number of pupils, giving the general average of the school. The marks of each pupil, together with the general averages of all the schools, were returned to the teachers. Although many papers were very creditable, others were so poor as to make the general averages much lower than they should be. An average of sixty we should consider low, for the questions asked. It should be remembered that the examinations were taken by no pupil under twelve years of age. We append the general averages, together with the per cent. of attendance of the various schools, for purposes of comparison:—

	DISTRICTS.						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Number taking examination .	14	16	8	8	12	6	14
General average of examination	69.7	67.1	53.1	55.8	51.5	35	43.5
Per cent. of attendance . .	87+	86	80+	77+	76+	80+	74+

It will be observed from the above table that those schools securing the best general averages in this examination also exhibit the largest per cent. of attendance for the year. This is but a single instance of a general rule, viz. : that a school whose general attendance is good will, other circumstances being equal, attain better results than one having a poor attendance. The same is true, of course, of the pupil.

As to the efficiency of the schools, we are compelled to say that it is far from what is desirable. We are of the opinion that our schools are not better, and our young people are not better, if so well, educated, than twenty years ago. Your Committee has been an impartial observer of our schools, and the conviction that they were not accomplishing so much as they might led us to inquire how they compared with those supported in former years, and an examination of the school documents and returns of the town since the year 1860 brings to our notice the following table:—

	Number attending School under 5 years of age.	Number attending School over 15 years of age.	Average attend- ance.	Amount raised for Schools.
1859-60	26	36	250	\$1,700
1870-71	8	24	203	2,000
1879-80	4	14	231	2,500

It will be seen from the above that the average attendance of pupils was less in the year 1879-80 than in 1860, although it was larger than in 1870; also that the numbers under five and over fifteen years of age who have attended the schools have decreased rapidly since 1860, or that the years selected happen to show a decrease. Children under five and over fifteen years of age are not required to attend school. The fact that more of those ages did attend in 1860 than in 1880 would seem to indicate that there was a greater interest in educational matters in the town than at present. Again, we find in a school report for 1860, or thereabout, the statement that the higher studies were pursued, under the instruction of a competent teacher, to advantage; but in our later reports we observe nothing to this effect. But, if this be true, where shall we look for a cause and a remedy? Both may be found, we think, in public sentiment. We are not in need of larger appropriations. The present is adequate, and we show a balance unexpended. But an awakened interest in our schools, which would send our children to school eager to learn, and which would bring our young men and maidens of sixteen, eighteen or twenty years of age to the school-house for at least the good old "winter's schooling,"—such a sentiment as this, we say, would be more beneficial to the community than an increased appropriation. It is worthy of remark that, while our facilities and expenditures have increased, our pupils of maturer years and public interest have decreased. Our school property is probably worth twenty-five per cent more than in 1860. We pay our teachers larger salaries than then, and, though there is as yet no royal road to learning, still, the pupil may undoubtedly acquire more easily by reason of improvements in text-books and methods

of instruction than formerly ; and yet, with these advantages, we have in our schools to-day but one pupil over fifteen years of age. This is a poor showing, indeed ! If it be said that some of our youth attend schools out of town, we reply that we know of but few who do so ; and, further, we see no reason why, with our present appropriation, we may not educate all who may attend our schools under twenty years of age. Let there be a renewed interest among the town's people in the subject which shall increase the number of pupils by one hundred.*

Your Committee, not having any special appropriation for that purpose, have expended as little as possible for repairs. A new chimney has been built and the blinds repaired and painted at No. 3. Some plastering and grading has been done at No. 7. Several of the school buildings are in immediate need of repairs. Does not the town deem it expedient to put and keep its buildings in thorough repair ? When in good condition a small annual outlay would keep them so. The buildings in Districts Nos. 3, 4 and 6 need painting immediately. No. 3 needs new desks, or thorough repairs on the old ones. No. 7 should be shingled at once, and also needs a new fence for its southern and eastern boundary. We would recommend, therefore, an appropriation of three hundred dollars for general repairs for the present year.

In their endeavors to reach a correct understanding of the school methods of former years, your Committee has been unable to find any complete and reliable information in the town. The records kept at the State Library have been resorted to. We would suggest, therefore, that your school committees be instructed hereafter to place on file at the office of the Selectmen copies of their annual reports, together with a record of their enactments for the year, and also the several registers kept by teachers during the previous year, the keeping of both of which school committees have no power to waive.

Agreeably to the suggestion of the Town Treasurer at the last annual March meeting, that all balances unexpended on January 1, 1880, should be remitted to the town fund, the balance unexpended

*It shall be the duty of the resident ministers of the gospel, the selectmen and the school committees to exert their influence and use their best endeavors, that the youth of their towns shall regularly attend the schools established for their instruction.
—*Gen. Stat.*, Chap. 37, Sec. 11.

January 1, 1880, was so remitted. Your Committee would recommend the appropriation of twenty-eight hundred dollars for school purposes, and of three hundred dollars for general repairs to school property, for the ensuing year.

Respectfully submitted,

S. S. KNAPP, *for the Committee.*

SOUTH SCITUATE, January 1, 1881.

SCHOOL EXPENDITURES.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Messrs. Thomas, Collins and Hopkins, for teaching thirteen weeks, at nine dollars a week	\$117 00	
A. Duane Hopkins, for teaching twenty-four weeks, at nine dollars a week	216 00	
Sarah B. Jacobs, for teaching primary grade thirty-six weeks and two days, at five dollars a week	182 00	
Edwin Jacobs, for wood and fitting	28 50	
Charles H. Totman, for sweeping and making fires	15 00	
Charles H. Totman, allowance for the year 1879	5 00	
	<hr/>	\$563 50

DISTRICT No. 2.

Franklin Jacobs, for teaching thirty-five weeks, at ten dollars a week	\$350 00	
Lina F. Jacobs, for teaching primary grade thirty-six weeks, at five dollars a week	180 00	
Burton R. Jacobs, for wood and fitting	26 00	
Dennis Gammon, for sweeping and making fires	15 00	
	<hr/>	\$571 00

DISTRICT No. 3.

Mary A. Litchfield, for teaching thirty-six weeks, at eight dollars a week	\$288 00	
F. W. Prouty, for wood and fitting	19 70	
A. L. Litchfield, for sweeping	5 00	
A. L. Richardson, for making fires	5 00	
	<hr/>	\$317 70

DISTRICT No. 4.

Carrie Sears, for teaching thirty-four weeks, at eight dollars a week	\$272 00	
F. W. Prouty, for wood and fitting	19 70	
Eddie Williamson, for sweeping and making fires	5 00	
	<hr/>	\$296 70

DISTRICT No. 5.

Walter L. Faunce, Jr., for teaching twelve weeks, at nine dollars a week	\$108 00	
Etta Flint, for assisting twelve weeks	12 00	
Mary E. Glydden, for teaching twelve weeks, at eight dollars a week	96 00	
Frank W. Brett, for teaching twelve weeks, at eight dollars a week	96 00	
Charles W. Sparrell, for wood and fitting	20 00	
Harry Merritt, for sweeping and making fires	8 00	
	<hr/>	\$340 00

DISTRICT No. 6.

G. A. Tyzzer, for teaching twelve weeks, at nine dollars a week	\$108 00	
Mary E. Sparrell, for teaching twelve weeks, at eight dollars a week	96 00	
Leafie B. Curtis, for teaching eleven weeks at eight dollars a week	88 00	
Samuel C. Cudworth, for wood and fitting	19 63	
B. N. Litchfield, for making fires and sweep- ing	3 00	
W. D. Turner, for making fires and sweeping	5 00	
	<hr/>	\$319 63

DISTRICT No. 7.

M. Anna Tolman, for teaching twelve weeks, at nine dollars a week	\$108 00	
M. Anna Tolman, for teaching twenty-three weeks, at eight dollars a week	184 00	

Charlotte E. Winslow, for teaching primary grade twenty-three weeks, at five dollars a week	\$115 00	
William C. Tolman, for wood and fitting	28 30	
Everett C. Chamberlain, making fires and sweeping	13 00	
Herbert C. Tolman, making fires and sweep- ing	4 00	
	<hr/>	\$452 80
Total school expenditures		<hr/> \$2,860 83 <hr/>

AVAILABLE FUNDS.

Annual town appropriation	\$2,800 00	
Received from State fund	232 58	
Received from dog fund for the year 1879	102 85	
Received from H. Wright of Hanover, for tuition of Charles Wright at District No. 2	9 00	
Received from Charles Jacobs of Hanover, for tuition of Addie M. Jacobs at District No. 2	9 00	
	<hr/>	
Total available for schools	\$3,153 40	
Total expenditures	2,860 83	
	<hr/>	
Unexpended balance	\$292 57	

SCHOOL-BOOK ACCOUNT.

Books on hand January 1, 1880	\$196 40	
Books delivered to agents	312 30	
	<hr/>	\$508 70
Books on hand January 1, 1881,	\$239 15	
Sold on credit	50 41	
In hands of Committee for exchange	7 91	
Agents' commission	26 15	
Cash to balance, paid Treasurer	185 08	
	<hr/>	\$508 70

ABSTRACT OF REGISTERS.

SCHOOLS.	WINTER TERM.			SUMMER TERM.			FALL TERM.		
	Whole Number registered.	Average attendance.	Per cent. of attendance.	Whole number registered.	Average attendance.	Per cent. of attendance.	Whole number registered.	Average attendance.	Per cent. of attendance.
District No. 1, Primary	35	27.9	79+	29	26	89+	34	28.3	83+
District No. 1, Grammar	29	25.9	89+	28	24.3	86+	29	25.6	88+
District No. 2, Primary	24	19	79+	31	26.3	84+	34	26.6	78+
District No. 2, Grammar	27	21.8	80+	25	22	88	31	28.1	90+
District No. 3	33	23.2	70+	30	25.7	85+	28	24.4	87+
District No. 4	25	19	76	27	22	81+	28	21	75
District No. 5	42	30.1	71+	42	34.3	81+	37	32.3	87+
District No. 6	28	23.5	83+	25	20.4	80+	30	23.4	78
District No. 7, Primary*				25	21.5	86	25	20.1	80+
District No. 7, Grammar*	45	34.6	76+	22	18	81+	26	17.6	67
Total	288	225	78+	284	240.5	84+	302	247.4	81+

* Primary and Grammar united for Winter Term.



